

Elba Tiger band members endure hot sun during two weeks of day long marching practices



HOT WEATHER An unnamed Elba Tiger band member hides from the hot morning sun while seeking relief in the handy ice chest

CPSC and Toys "R" Us announce "Bathtub Baby" recall

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Toys "R" Us of Paramus, N.J., is recalling 71,000 Bathtub Baby dolls. The dolls are made of plastic and have a small ball in the mouth which poses a serious choking hazard to children under 3 years old.

CPSC and Toys "R" Us are not aware of any injuries involving these doll sets. This recall is being conducted to prevent the possibility of injuries. The Bathtub Baby doll set includes a blue, plastic bathtub; a 5.5 inch soft vinyl doll wearing a blue diaper; a pink, fish-shaped strainer; and a pink ball about 1.25 inches in diameter. The set is packaged in a clear plastic bag with a hangtag. Writing on the

hangtag includes, "BATHTUB BABY," "WHAT A DOLL!" "FISHEL" and "MADE IN CHINA." Toys "R" Us stores nationwide sold these doll sets from October 1998 through July 1999 for about \$2.

Consumers are urged to take the doll sets away from young children immediately and return them to the stores where purchased for a full refund. For more information, consumers should call their local Toys "R" Us store, or visit the Toys "R" Us web site at www.toysrus.com/recalls/index.cfm. This recall was the result of an inspection conducted by the CPSC staff.

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Boater certification suspension guidelines set

Alabama law currently provides that the Commissioner of Conservation and Natural Resources may suspend the certification or operating privilege of a vessel operator without preliminary hearing upon showing of sufficient evidence that the operator committed certain offenses or is incompetent to operate a vessel. Conservation Commissioner Riley Boykin Smith signed an emergency regulation, effective Aug. 4, establishing guidelines for these suspension periods.

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ELBA HIGH SCHOOL BANDS PREPARES...It's a hot job but somebody has got to do it...and it's great that these youngsters do! The Elba High Marching Tigers have been practicing for the past two weeks - 6 to 8 hours a day - in the high temperature (and high humidity) preparing to show off their new uniforms and talents during the 1999 football season. Donations for the new uniforms are still being accepted and would be appreciated.

TRAVEL INTO THE MILLENNIUM IN A NICHOLS GM SUPERSTORE

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President Of
Georgia Bank

INSIDE
Diana Jackson
Wins Big In
Regional & State
Horse Show

INSIDE
EHS Head Coach
Julius Head Talks
Tiger Football

The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 10 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, August 19, 1999 1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

ELBA SCHOOLS' ENROLLMENT 1074

Elba BOE hires nine staff members

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board made the hiring of new teachers official Thursday evening with the hiring of nine new teachers and staff members. The board also approved new jobs for three existing teacher members.

Assigned new duties were Brenda Skinner to 1st grade and Chris Head to 3rd grade, both to comply with the classroom size cap. Also, Wynn Grimes was named head baseball coach.

New hires approved by the board were Rebecca Cardwell, 5th grade; Renee Gibson, 3rd grade; Sonya Wright, Writing to Read; Seretha Flowers, PE Aide; Rebecca Hagen, High School Math; Jamie Corbett, High School Social Science and Coach; Daphne Donaldson, Reading Specialist; Nancy Murler, EES lunchroom worker; Sherry Butler, Talent Pool.

Superintendent Charles Pearce updated board members on plans for construction of the new elementary school band room. Presently elementary band students are practicing in a regular classroom, which is needed for regular classes. Even though the school building is fairly new, and was built with anticipation for enrollment growth, that growth and the law reducing classroom size is pushing the system's capacity.

Pearce noted that beginning enrollment is up by eleven this year to 1074.

The need for the band room move is made more demanding by the fact that the band program is growing by leaps and bounds, Pearce said. The target date for completing the 1580 square foot band room is the Christmas holidays. The facility will be built with proper soundproofing to prevent disrupting other classes. The exact location for the band facility has not been decided, but it will have either a covered walkway or an enclosed entry from the existing building.

The superintendent reported that the Elba schools had a great opening for the 1999-2000 school year, and the students and staff seemed to have a very positive attitude.

Budget hearings for the next year's budget are set for the evenings of September 6th and 9th at the superintendent's office.

Substitute teacher salaries were adjusted upward upon the recommendation of Superintendent Pearce. For many years, all substitute teachers in the Elba schools received \$40 per day, regardless of the training. Beginning immediately, substitutes with teaching certificates will receive \$50 per day. The state pays only \$35 for substitutes and the balance is made up by the local board.

David Stokes updated the board members on the technology advances being made within the schools. Stokes explained that over the summer the high school typing lab was converted to computers and is now equipped with 26 new computers to teach keyboarding.

The upgrading of administrative software and hardware to be Y2K ready is completed and working well, Stokes said. Staff members are having very little trouble learning the new system and what few glitches occur are easily corrected.

The \$300,000 campus wide computer network installation will soon be complete with at least six computer outlets in each classroom. This is being funded by a federal grant (e-rate) which pays for 76% of the installation and operation cost.

Arrested on Saturday in conjunction with the seizures of the methamphetamine were Jeffrey Chad Wallace, 28, and Renata Lynn Stanford, 28. Both were charged with the trafficking of a controlled substance (methamphetamine).

This warrant, the first, was executed at a residence located on Co. Rd. 533. They were placed in the Coffee County Jail with bonds set at \$100,000 each.

The third arrest came on Sunday during the execution of the second search warrant. Christopher Lee Hutchinson, 22, was arrested for the manufacturing of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) and possession of Marijuana in the second degree.

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Fred Clark named executive director of ECA

Fred D. Clark Jr. has been named Executive Director of the Electric Cities of Alabama (ECA).

Clark most recently served as Executive Director of the Alabama Farmers' Federation, (ALFA). Before joining ALFA, he served as president and chief executive officer of the Alabama Rural Electric Association, State Director for U.S. Senator Richard Shelby, Legislative Representative for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and Legislative Assistant for former U.S. Senator Howell Heflin.

Clark is a graduate of Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science and Master of Agriculture degrees.

The Electric Cities of Alabama is a coalition of the state's municipal owned and operated electric systems, Alabama.

Clark and his wife, Blake, reside in Montgomery with their two children, Laura Catherine and Denson.



Fred D. Clark

Two eleven-year-old juveniles questioned in recent burglaries

by Marvin McLain, Editor

Two Elba juveniles are being questioned by the Elba Police Department in connection with several local burglaries.

According to Investigator Johnny P. Senn, last Tuesday afternoon (August 10) at approximately 6:10 p.m., Elba police officers responded to a burglary call at a residence located at 1855 Hickman Avenue.

Upon arriving at the scene, they found that the residence had apparently been entered and several items were missing from one of the bedrooms.

Officers contacted Inv. Senn and upon his investigation of the scene he discovered that the burglary had a very similar MO (mode of operation) fitting some other burglaries that had occurred in the same area some weeks earlier.

During the course of the investigation, officers were able to establish two possible suspects whose names cannot be made public due to their ages.

Several hours after the initial call, Senn's investigation led him to the discovery of 21 reported stolen items from the residence of the two suspects. The estimated total value of all the items is \$468.

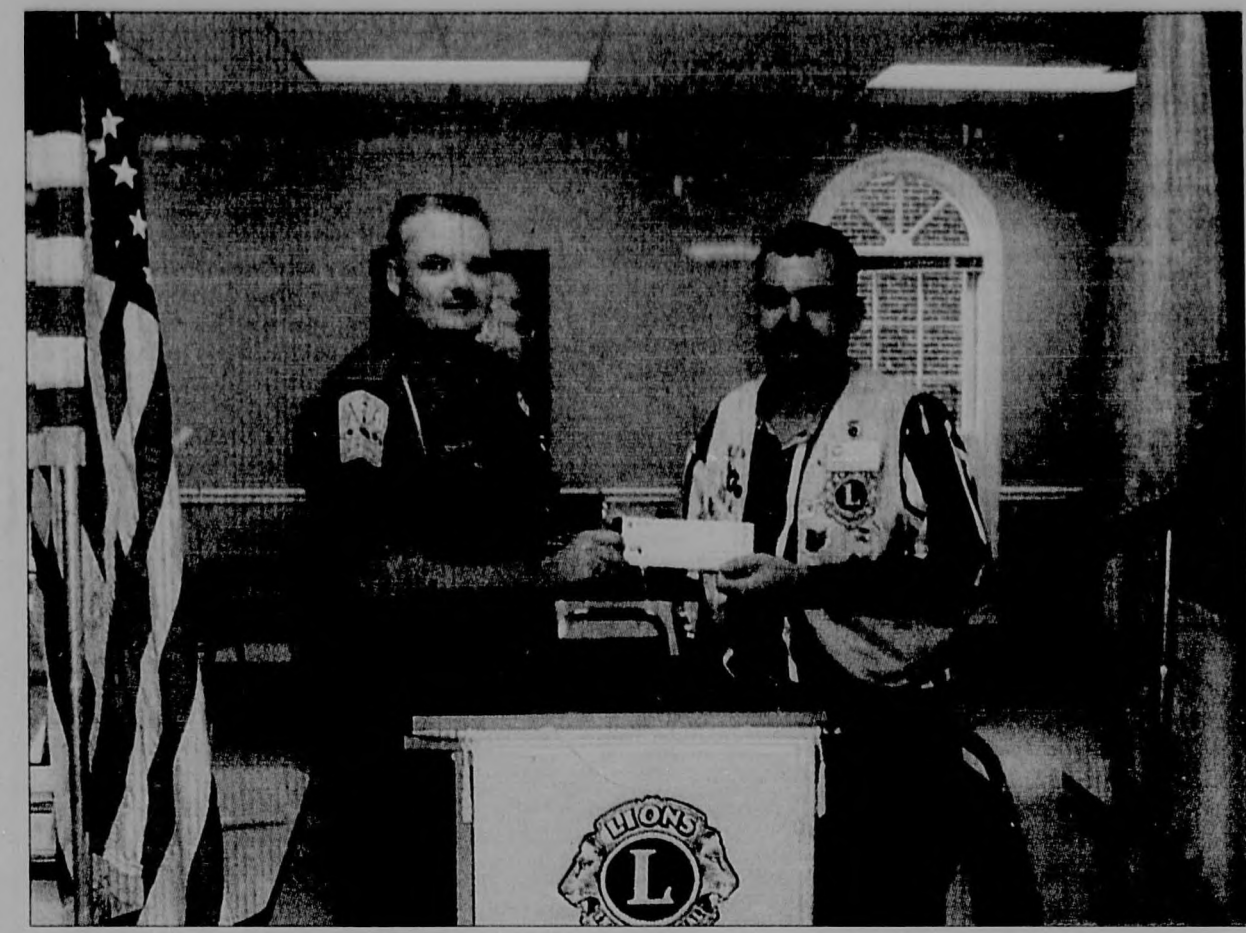
Senn said two things that made this case unique were: one, the type items that were being taken were similar in all three burglaries; two, the two suspects are only eleven years old.

Juvenile authorities have been contacted, and the matter is still under investigation at this time.

Please See SCHOOL Page 2



CHEERING FOR THE TIGERS...The Elba High School cheerleaders are preparing to take the field alongside the football players and band members on Thursday evening, Aug. 26, in Brantley when the Elba Tigers take on the Brantley Bulldogs. Members of this year's squad who will lead the Tiger spirit and cheer on that night and the following Friday nights of the season are: (front L to R) Cammie Kelley, Katie Vaughn, Sara Purvis; (middle L to R) Kerri Lawford, Casey Skinner, Oneida Davis, Melissa Mularz; (back L to R) Chelsea Cooper, Brandy Davis and Carmenda Coleman.



D.A.R.E. DONATION...Guest speaker at the Elba Lion Club's meeting last Tuesday (August 10) was Dean Blair, D.A.R.E. Office with the Elba Police Department. He spoke to Lions about the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) and about the department's neighborhood watch program. At the conclusion of the program, Lion President Richard Patterson presented Blair with a check for \$717.00 to be used in funding D.A.R.E. program. "Without the support of organizations like the Lions Club, the D.A.R.E. program would not be possible," said Officer Blair. "The Elba Lions Club is one of our strongest financial supporters."

Meth lab busted in New Brockton during weekend search

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The execution of two search warrants by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department resulted in the discovery of a drug lab and the arrest of three individuals.

During the weekend of August 7 and 8, sheriff's deputies executed search warrants for the recovery of stolen property and illegal drugs. In the process of executing the warrants, components of a methamphetamine lab, chemicals used to manufacture the illegal substance, marijuana, and crystal meth/crank were seized. Also recovered were appliances taken during a burglary of a residence under construction on Co. Rd. 537.

Arrested on Saturday in conjunction with the seizures of the methamphetamine were Jeffrey Chad Wallace, 28, and Renata Lynn Stanford, 28. Both were charged with the trafficking of a controlled substance (methamphetamine).

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Area Happenings

SEASON TICKETS DEADLINE. Elba High School regular season ticket holders have until Friday (TOMORROW), August 20, to rent seats for the 1999 season. After Friday, the seats go on sale to the general public.

MACHIS TRIBE MEETING. The Machis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will have a general meeting for all members on Sunday, Aug. 22, at 2 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Citizens Building on Vester Cole Street (behind Big Little Store) in New Brockton. For more information call Nancy Carney at 334/894-6578 or e-mail - creeks@entercomp.com.

ATHLETIC CLUB MEETING. The Elba Athletic Club will sponsor a "Meet the Tigers" cookout on Tuesday, August 24, from 6 - 8 p.m., at Elba High School, and all parents of the student-athletes and supporters of the Elba High School athletic program are invited to attend.

COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, August 23, 1999, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, AL.

and degree. Hutchinson's arrest took place at his residence located on Fitzsimmons Street in New Brockton, Ala. He was placed in the Coffee County Jail with bond set at \$101,000.

During the removal of the chemical components for the meth lab, a chemical reaction occurred which could have jeopardized the welfare of the law enforcement officers involved in the search.

The Fort Rucker Fire Department's Hazard Material Unit was called in to assist with the removal of the unstable chemicals. These chemicals, when mixed in incorrect amounts, can produce highly toxic fumes and can become highly flammable. Also assisting at the scene were firemen from New Brockton and emergency medical personnel from Elba.

Assisting deputies with search warrants were police officers from New Brockton and investigators from the District Attorney's office.

According to Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates, this is believed to be the second largest methamphetamine bust in Coffee County history.

The investigation into these cases is continuing and further arrests may be made. These three arrests came as a result of local law enforcement agencies working together - sharing information - in their efforts to rid the local area of the illegal use, manufacture and sale of illegal drugs.

Reportedly, at press time, all three individuals have been unable to post bail and are still in jail.

Samson man charged with murder in victim's death in two-vehicle crash

by Marvin McLain, Editor

A two-vehicle car crash in Coffee County has resulted in a Samson, Ala. man being charged with murder.

The crash occurred on Friday night, August 6, on Co. Rd. 625 at approximately 9:30 p.m. Beth

Leann Lawson, 19, of Black, a passenger in a 1998 Ford, was killed when the vehicle in which she was riding collided with a 1997 Chevrolet driven by Sandy Walter Smith, 30, of Samson.

Daniel Josh Burkett, 18, of Kinston, the driver of the Ford, was taken to Medical Center Enterprise where he was treated and released. Lawson was also taken to Enterprise where she died while undergoing surgery for injuries received in the crash.

According to reports Smith was taken to Wiregrass Hospital in Geneva, where he was treated for his injuries and later released.

The fatality was investigated by the Alabama State Troopers, and they reported that the crash appeared to be alcohol related.

The facts of the case were presented to a grand jury already scheduled to convene on August 9, and an indictment for the felony offense of murder was returned.

Smith was arrested and placed in the Coffee County Jail with bail set at \$200,000 by Circuit Judge Tom Head.

He remains in jail at press time, and his arraignment is scheduled for 9 a.m. Sept. 27, 1999.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

It was refreshing to see in the local news last week where funds are being donated to students who excel in their book work. Elba has long been famous for the avid support of athletics and now we see signs of growing support for the academics also. It is an accepted fact that much education is going to be necessary to keep the upcoming generation competitive in this world operating on fancy technology. Therefore anything done to encourage students to study, study, study is helping them stay out of the unemployment lines and making them productive citizens of a great country. The Rotary Club is to be saluted for giving the two scholarships, and the businesses and industries who donated to the high school students scoring highest on their test scores are also praised to the highest.

Last week we heard a statement that the move to take religion out of the schools, etc. during the 1960s was the cause of all today's problems, such as school and work place shootings. That may be right. However, it could be that the problem goes deeper and that the efforts at avoidance of any reference to religion in schools and other public places is just another symptom of an even deeper problem. It is generally conceded that a strong family unit is the key to a morally correct society and we wonder if it was the fact this unit was fast degrading that society has strayed so far from our forefathers' religious beliefs and thus the move to avoid even the mention of religion.

The effort to increase the flood-proofing of Elba is an ongoing project. We got word this week that another positive step is being taken in that direction... and soon. Funds have been approved for some work along the levee, just off Martin L. King Drive, to clear the trees and other growth which could cause problems during high water times. Working with Mayor James Grimes, the Alabama Emergency Management Agency has arranged funding for the Alabama National Guard to come in next week and begin that work. These are the same folks who did that great work with their excavator in the canal last year. If you happen to see any of them while they are here working, it might help future efforts if you take the time to express our thanks for their assistance. If any of you happen to be rubbing elbows with the governor, remember, none of it would be done without his blessings!

Washington is deep in debating tax cuts or no tax cuts. An editorial in the *Register* last week pointed out some of the "great" projects our beloved President Bill Clinton appears to be protecting by fighting the proposed tax cut. One of those listed projects which really boggles our mind is the \$680,000 grant to the Kentucky Distiller's Association. There is also \$3.5 million for manure handling - maybe that will all be used right there in Washington.

News Brief

There are five (5) murder cases pending in Coffee County - Enterprise Division with no trial dates set at the present time. Each case, and its status is as follows:
 • Michael Blackmon charged with the 1997 shooting death of Iris Butler - Case pending psychiatric evaluation of accused.
 • Russell William Cutts Jr. charged with capital murder in the 1998 shooting deaths of his father and step-mother, Russell William Cutts, Sr. and Leighanne Manning Cutts - Case pending.
 • Jeremy Todd Guthrie charged with capital murder in the 1998 shooting deaths of Russell William Cutts, Sr. and Leighanne Manning Cutts - Case pending.
 • Paul Edward Smith charged with the murder of his grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Smith, in 1999 - Case continued from last term of court.
 • Sandy Walter Smith charged with murder in the 1999 vehicle death of Beth Leann Lawson - Arraignment set for September 1999.

An invitation

Andrew R. Dow, M.D.

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Cordially Invite You To
Attend

Open House
Sunday, August 22, 1999
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The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$15 per year - 6 Months - \$8, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$17 per year - including tax
6 months - \$9
Outside Alabama - \$18 per year - 6 months - \$10

EDITORIAL

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, August 9, 1999, investigated the following incidents: three thefts of property, two burglaries, one menacing, two public intoxications, two harassments, one vehicle wreck, one criminal mischief, one possession of a controlled substance, three DUIs, one domestic situation, one criminal trespass, one breaking & entering of a vehicle, and one attempted suicide.

The following arrests were made during the week: two for public intoxication, one for failure to appear, one for VPI, one for theft of property, two for criminal trespass and two for criminal mischief.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for improper turn signal, three for driving while driver's license are suspended, two for speeding, one for driving while driver's license are revoked, one for no tag, and one for improper lane usage.

Daily activity highlights for the week are as follows:
MONDAY, AUGUST 9 - River stage - 3.34 feet (6:08 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Route 2 Elba (1:18 p.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to Flowers Hospital in Dothan (1:26 p.m.); Disturbance reported at Elba Texaco Food Mart (10:32 p.m.); Fight reported on West Street (11:16 p.m.).
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10 - River stage - 3.21 feet (6:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Claxton Ave. (9:31 a.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs deer) on Taylor Mill Road (8:21 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on North Clay Ave. (8:34 p.m.); Possible burglary reported at Kendrick Apts. (10:11 p.m.).
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11 - River stage - 4.08 feet (6:45 a.m.); Alarm at SouthTrust Bank (7:05 p.m.); Routine Activity.
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12 - Possible burglary reported on Powell Circle (12:27 a.m.); River stage - 7.94 feet (7:04 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 228 (11:46 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Dixie Dandy on AL Hwy. 125N (12:21 p.m.).
FRIDAY, AUGUST 13 - River stage - 7.38 feet (7:03 a.m.); Routine activity.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 14 - River stage - 4.97 (7:10 a.m.); Wreck reported on U. S. Hwy. 84 West (5:55 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a wreck on U. S. Hwy. 84 West (5:56 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on Hickman Ave. (11:27 p.m.).
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15 - River stage - 3.76 (6:49 a.m.); Coffee County EMS made a medical transfer from Elba General Hospital to a Dothan hospital (8:28 p.m.); Possible breaking and entering of a vehicle reported at Runt's Texaco Station (10:27 p.m.).

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of August 9, 1999 through August 15, 1999. They were: Mary Smith, Billy Scarbrough, Melinda Jones, Henry Eiland, Amber Powell, Cameron Sykes, Mary Patterson, U. V. McDaniel, John Hall, Lois Wilson, Madie Kelley, Mary Senn, Lucille Stackhouse, R. C. Boutwell, Bernice Nichols, John Hall, Mary Patterson, Lois Wilson, U. V. McDaniel, Zedie Johnson, Bernice Nichols, Onie Merle Barlow, Barbara Turner, and Rosa Lee Coleman.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Sara Jimmerson, Drexel Bryan, Eva Hammond, Geraldine Eiland, Umar Rodgers, Henry Eiland, Dewey Petty, Melinda Jones, Harvey Sauer, Cameron Sykes, Mary Patterson, U. V. McDaniel, John Hall, Lois Wilson, Madie Kelley, Mary Senn, Lucille Stackhouse, R. C. Boutwell, Bernice Nichols, John Hall, Mary Patterson, Lois Wilson, U. V. McDaniel, Zedie Johnson, Bernice Nichols, Onie Merle Barlow, Barbara Turner, and Rosa Lee Coleman.

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NEW LISTING 197 AC+/- 24 ft. x 60 ft. Doublewide w/Deck. Stocked Fish Pond. Located Inside Elba City Limits \$32,000.00



NEW LISTING 1131 Guyton St. 2-BR, 1 Bath \$19,500.00



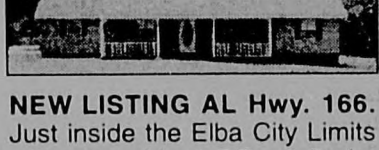
NEW LISTING 2351 HICKMAN AVE. 4 Acres 1470 sq. ft. Brick House. Nice Storage Bldg. This property is immaculate!! \$57,900.00



NEW LISTING 977 Morrow Street 3-BR, 1-Bath - Fireplace \$36,000.00



Parker's Fox Run New 2-BR, 2-Bath Home on 3AC w/Sun Room & Hot Tub, Dbl. Garage Many personal items included - TV, VCR, treadmill, lawn mower, saws & misc. furniture \$105,000.00



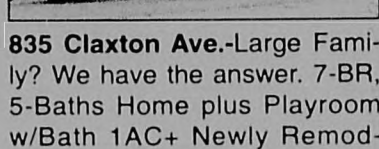
NEW LISTING AL Hwy. 166. Just inside the Elba City Limits - 2 years old - 3 BR - 2 Baths w/ Ceramic tile in kitchen & baths - Deck on back



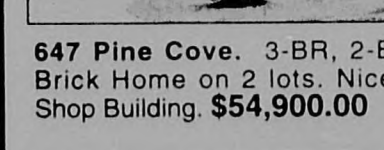
NEW LISTING - Co. Rd. 349 1 AC +/- 3 BR - 2 Baths, metal roof - additional land available \$59,900.00



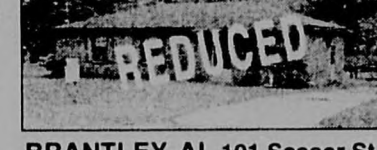
Saddle Hill Community - 10.59 AC, w/ 2,792 sq. ft. home, partially renovated; Double Wide Mobile Home.



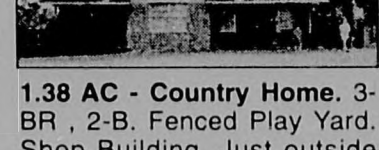
647 Pine Cove. 3-BR, 2-B Brick Home on 2 lots. Nice Shop Building. \$54,900.00



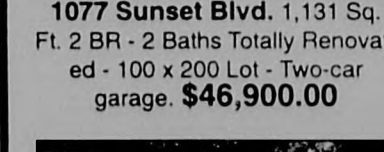
1077 Sunset Blvd. 1,131 Sq. Ft. 2 BR - 2 Baths Totally Renovated - 100 x 200 Lot - Two-car garage \$46,900.00



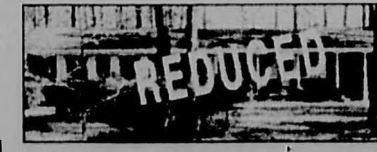
BRANTLEY, AL 101 Sasser St. Brick Home w/3 BR, 12 X 20 deck, laundry room, storage building, & playhouse. \$36,900 \$43,000



138 AC - Country Home. 3-BR, 2-B. Fenced Play Yard, Shop Building, Just outside city limits. \$54,900



NEVER FLOODED! 2,200 sq. ft. - 3 BR - 2 Baths - sun room beautiful lot \$74,900 \$69,900



Eighty-Three Acres Located North New Brockton 83 Acres plus 4 BR - 2 Baths House \$103,000.00



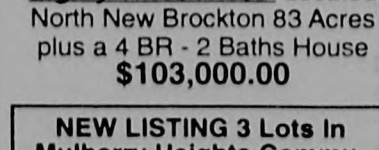
NEW LISTING 3 Lots In Mulberry Heights Community \$2,500.00 Each



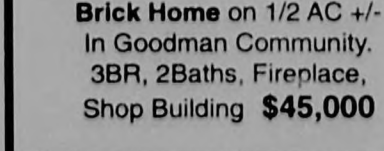
1083 Sunset Blvd. 2 BR - 1 Bath Nice Neighborhood 1,136 Sq. Ft. - IMMACULATE! Central H/C WAS \$44,900 NOW \$39,900



Old Beaver Dam Primitive Baptist Church Located on Briley Highway AL 189 North of Elba Brick Bldg. 2 Restrooms \$25,000 \$22,000



LOT AT GANTT LAKE \$18,000



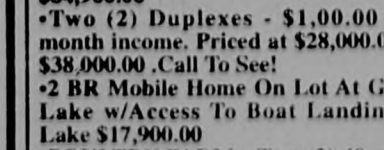
Brick Home on 1/2 AC +/- In Goodman Community. 3BR, 2Baths, Fireplace, Shop Building \$45,000



Sunset Blvd 2,027 Sq. Ft. - 4 BR - 2 Baths - storage bldg, patio - basement \$79,500



1539 Reese Ave. 3 BR - 1 1/2 Baths w/Central Heating & Cooling Great Investment @ \$38,000.00



1149 Oak St. 3-BR Brick Home Never Flooded \$52,900



Zion Chapel Community 4 BR - 3 Baths Brick Home On 1 Acre \$38,900 \$43,000



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Two (2) Duplexes - \$1,000.00 per month income. Priced at \$28,000.00 & \$38,000.00. Call To See!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

On August 14, 1999 at 4:30 p.m. or later, my daughter and I were traveling from Enterprise through New Brockton on our way to Elba to visit my mother. My left front tire blew out and the weather was hot! hot! Sincere thanks to Mr. David Carpenter of Elba for changing the tire and staying with us until the job was done. We also would like to send a thanks to Police Officer Greg Jackson of the Elba Police Dept., Officer Kent Reynolds and reserve officer Michael Adkinson of New Brockton for their help, being polite, friendly and just being there in our time of distress.

We want David and the other officers to know how much we appreciate their be so helpful. May God bless them and forever keep them in his care.
 Janita Belcher Brooks & Ree'Nita of Enterprise, Ala.

Dear Editor:

In answer to a letter in your paper, I too used to take my grandchildren into the neighborhood country store for all the reasons stated. I said used to. But this friendly store has changed. I would rather go a few miles more to get the few things I need than subject myself to the language and actions in this store.

Many of us in this community do not feel that our God is damned or feel we need to hear our mothers described in the fashion spoken there.

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Vehicle property tax collection changing in Y2K

According to State Revenue Commissioner James P. Hayes, Jr., beginning January 1, 2000, Alabama will change the way it collects property taxes on vehicles.

Vehicle owners will pay current-year property taxes when registering their vehicles, beginning in 2000. This change comes as a result of a new law, Act 99-363, applied the Synchronized Taxation and Registration System or STARS.

"In the past, our property tax laws have required the assessment of taxes one year, and payment the following year, causing vehicle property taxes to be paid in arrears. Motor vehicle registration, on the other hand, has been handled on a current-year basis," said Hayes.

"What do the changes mean to Alabama motorists renewing their vehicle registrations and paying property taxes in 2000?"

"Actually, very little change will be noticed by vehicle owners renewing their registrations - other than beginning in January, they will have a registration receipt showing current-year 2000 property taxes paid, rather than 1999 property taxes. The new law does not change the rate of tax, payment of motor vehicle registration fees, or any procedures related to the motor vehicle registration process," explained Hayes.

"The new law specifically requires that taxes be collected in advance on motor vehicles beginning January 2000 and that no property taxes on vehicles will be due in arrears for the 1999 tax year."

"The biggest change will be in the way for county assessing and collecting officials and their staff who are on the front-end of the vehicle tax assessment and collection process. The STARS legislation revamps the entire motor vehicle property tax collection process," says Hayes.

The new law provides that property taxes on motor vehicles are due: (1) during the renewal month of the owner; (2) on the date the motor vehicle enters Alabama; (3) on the date the motor vehicle is removed from the inventory of a dealer; (4) on or the date the motor vehicle is otherwise determined to be taxable, whichever comes first. Taxes become delinquent on the first day of the month following the owner's registration renewal month.

"For example, a vehicle owner whose designated motor vehicle registration renewal month is January will pay registration fees and property taxes on his or her vehicle for the period Jan. 1, 2000 through Dec. 31, 2000. Taxes and registration fees on the vehicle become delinquent March 1, 2000," added Hayes.

Alabama's motor vehicle registration renewal system is a staggered renewal system, based on the first letter of the vehicle owner's last name. The registration period runs from January through October each year for private passenger vehicles.

One important aspect of the new law involves how taxes will be assessed and collected on new vehicles. The law defines a "new vehicle" as a vehicle being registered for the first time with a manufacturer's certificate of origin, and one being assessed as Class IV property (private passenger automobiles and pickup trucks owned and operated by an individual for personal use and not for hire, rent or compensation).

Beginning in January, the property tax on a "new vehicle" at the time of registration will not be paid until the first renewal or other subsequent registration of the vehicle, whichever comes first. Consequently, the first renewal or subsequent registration of a "new vehicle" will include (1) the property tax that would have been due at the time of the first registration and (2) the current registration year's property tax.

"Bringing the vehicle property tax collection process forward will certainly make the entire process more efficient for tax assessors and collectors, and less confusing to individuals registering their vehicles and paying their vehicle property taxes, as the two payment periods will now coincide," added Hayes.

JOHN SON
 Army National Guard Pvt. Joseph M. Johnson has entered basic military training at Ft. Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the eight weeks of training the soldier will study the Army mission and will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, Army history and traditions, and special training in human resources. Johnson is the son of Lane Johnson of Rt. 2, Brundidge, and is a 1999 graduate of Arvon High School.

ISBILL
 Army Pvt. Phillip E. Isbill has arrived at Ft. Benning, Columbus, Ga., to complete basic military training.

During the training the soldier will receive instruction in drill and ceremonies, map reading, tactics, military customs and courtesies, physical fitness, and first aid.

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AREA DEATHS

ANNIS BELL BOWELL

Mrs. Annis Bell Bowell, age 77, of Enterprise, died Aug. 12, 1999, in Medical Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Aug. 13, at 2 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home, with Rev. Hollis Bradley and Rev. David Mount officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Bowell was preceded in death by her husband, Johnnie Andrew Bowell, Elba, and a grandson, Justin Lowery, Jack, Miss., and a sister, Patti Crew Files, Madison, Miss.

Survivors include six daughters: Sara Free, Mary Wallace, Janet Bowell, Elba; Louise Ezell, Enterprise; Chris Lowery, Jack; Vetta Anderson, New Brockton; three sons: Charles Bowell, Elba; Lamar Bowell and Kenneth Bowell, Enterprise; two sisters: Vetta Anderson and Lucille Bowell, New Brockton; 11 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren.

JEFFERSON ALBERT "JEFF" CARNLEY III
 Mr. Jefferson Albert "Jeff" Carnley III, age 62, of Bay Minette, Ala., died Aug. 12, 1999 at the William F. Green V.A. Home.

Funeral services were held Aug. 14, 1999 at Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Val Obregon officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his mother: Sara Lee Carnley Crew, Madison, Miss.; and a sister: Patti Crew Files, Madison, Miss.

MADIE FLORENCE KELLEY
 Mrs. Madie Florence Kelley, age 84, of 1400 County Road 140, Jack, died Aug. 13, 1999 at Elba General Hospital.

Funeral services were held Aug. 15, 1999 at Victoria Baptist Church with Rev. Randy Hartley and Rev. Walter Falk officiating. Burial followed in the Victory Baptist Church Cemetery in Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law: Karin and Rhett Snellgrove, Jack; three sons and daughters-in-law: James H. and Jeanette Kelley, Geneva, Ala.; Reggie and Mary Nell Kelley, Elba; Roland Kelley, Elba; two sisters: Myrtle Olds, Panama City, Fla.; one brother: Edward Green, Longpine, Calif.; eight grandchildren, 10

POOLER FAMILY
 We would like to thank everyone in the community for the overwhelming outpouring of love and support we have received during the loss of our mother, MRS. ERLINE POOLE.

She would truly be honored to know how many people, both young and old, she touched, and how many of you came to give your last respects.

We hope that her love and enthusiasm to live each day to its fullest will remain in your hearts as it will in ours.

The Family of Erline Poole 8/19/99

WILSON FAMILY
 My family and I would like to thank our friends, family and neighbors for their love, prayers and support given to me at the time of my surgery.

Thanks for the phone calls, cards, visits and food.

May God bless You,
 Agnes Wilson and Family 8/19/99

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108 CORDELLA ST. Brick ranch style 3BR, 1 Bath, L.R. DR, CH&A. Conveniently located downtown - Call for appointment.

SMITH AVENUE... Looking for that special place outside town w/yard landscaped, large screened porch for afternoon and early morning relaxation, new carpet and large workshop. Brick 3BR & 3-1/2 Baths - Call for appointment.

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N. CLAXTON - Very desirable neighborhood. This 3-BR, 2-Bath, ranch-style home is REDUCED TO SELL!

901 FLOURNOY ST. - "You never know when your dream boat... or dream home may come along." 3 BR, 2 1/2 B. Extremely nice inside. This is a must see for serious home buyers.

EXCELLENT LOCATION - Across from school. Investment potential. 18 Acres M.O.L. w/ Road frontage, includes 3-BR, 2-B, Ranch Style Brick Home, CH&A, L.R. Shown by Appt. Only - Call to See.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY - Apartments. Excellent location. Excellent investment opportunity. Call for appointment.

338 EAST DAVIS ST. - Two homes; Main Dwelling - Ranch Style, frame const., 3-BR, 2-B, CH&A, Den, DR, Deck, Front & Rear Porches, Privacy Fence. Cottage - 1-BR, 1-B, Den, Kitchen, Rear Deck. Both houses.

EXCELLENT STARTER or retirement home, 2-BR, 2-B, Den, Living Room, CH&A, Large Lot. Good neighborhood. Show anytime.

1240 NEIL GRANTHAM DR. Ranch Style, BR, 3-BR, 2-1/2B, Eat-in Kitchen, DR, Garden Tub, HDWD Floors, Lrg Den, CH&A, w/3 Acres, M.O.L.

1175 OAK AVE. - Ranch style, brick veneer, 4 BR, 2-B, screened porch, large game room, CH&A, fireplace. Good neighborhood - Can Show Anytime!

NEW LISTING - LAND - 7.7 Acres M.O.L. located off Taylor Mill Road w/ improvements, well, storage shed, community water available.

UNDER CONTRACT - LAND - 166 Acres M.O.L. - Excellent Hunting or Development - 84 East of Elba. Approximately 4 miles from downtown Elba. Call for more information.

LAND - 8 Acres M.O.L. off Taylor Mill Road. Community water available. - Excellent mobile home site. Call to See.

Lots... Three Lots for Sale - Approx. 4 acres M.O.L. per lot. Just outside city limits - Call for details.

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Elba grad moves up in banking business

Larry Smith, a 1965 graduate of Elba High School and a 1969 graduate of the University of Alabama, has recently been promoted to the position of Senior Vice President and Manager of Citizens and Merchants' State Bank of Douglassville, Ga.

Smith has worked at C&M Bank for 10 years, and "..." has been instrumental in the growth of C&M Bank over the last several years. We are fortunate to have his line experience on our staff," said Ken Barber, president of C&M. Smith is the son of Helen Smith

and the late Curtis Smith, and is married to the former Cheryl Gibson of Greenville. They have lived in Douglassville, Ga. since 1972, and Smith has memberships in various civic and professional associations.



Larry Smith

Miscellaneous courses offered at ESJC

VIA COMPUTER CLASSES

Enterprise State Junior College has taken steps to meet the challenges and needs arising from a fast-changing world by adding computer-assisted courses, internet access, and new programs. Classes being taught with computer assistance include Business Statistics I and English Composition I and II. Two new programs focusing on computer usage for fields inundated with the computer as a major production tool are Computer Graphics and Computer Applications in Music. This fall, telecourses for United States History I and General Psychology are being offered.

Internet access throughout the college's library has provided a vast research realm at students' fingertips, as well as having electronic connections with other libraries around the world.

Classes for the 1999 Fall Semester will begin on Aug. 19, and registration is open.

GORGEIOUS GOURDS

A special interest class for the fall semester, is designed for beginners and experienced painters, and for holiday projects for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Gourds ready to paint must be purchased at the first class for \$5 - \$6 each. Participants may bring their own paints and brushes and should bring them to the first class; otherwise, supplies may be purchased for \$30 - \$50.

There is a minimum age limit of 12, and a \$30 fee. Registration deadline is Sept. 7, and classes will be held on Tuesdays, Sept. 14 - Oct. 19, 6 - 9 p.m.

POTTERY SHOPPE

is designed for adults who have had no experience with clay as well as for those who have worked with clay. Each student will complete at least one piece of slab-built pottery and must purchase clay and tools for \$20.00. David Plunkett will teach the course to be held on

Mondays, 5:30-7:30, Sept. 13 - Oct. 18; registration deadline is Sept. 7, and there is a \$30 fee.

USING THE MICROCOMPUTER - LEVEL 1

will be offered fall semester to assist persons having NO keyboarding skills. Participants will be introduced to the computer keyboard, taught basic computer terminology, and have hands-on experience with a word processing software package. Overcoming a fear of computer usage, understanding basic keyboarding functions, and gaining a sense of the potential for computer use in the home, work and/or educational environment are emphasized. Participants must bring a 3-1/2" disk to the first class; there is a \$30 fee and registration deadline is Sept. 7, classes scheduled for Mondays and Tuesdays, Sept. 13 - 21, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

For information on classes call 393-ESJC, Ext. 234.

MaChis Tribe to hold general meeting

The MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama will have a general meeting for all members on Sunday, Aug. 22, at 2 p.m. in the New Brockton Senior Citizens Building on Vester Cole Street (behind Big Little Store) in New Brockton.

New roll cards will be given, and discussion will include Indian Education, Scholarships, Pow Wow, Job Training, Partnership Training Program, which includes classroom training, and work experience; payment of energy bills for low income individuals.

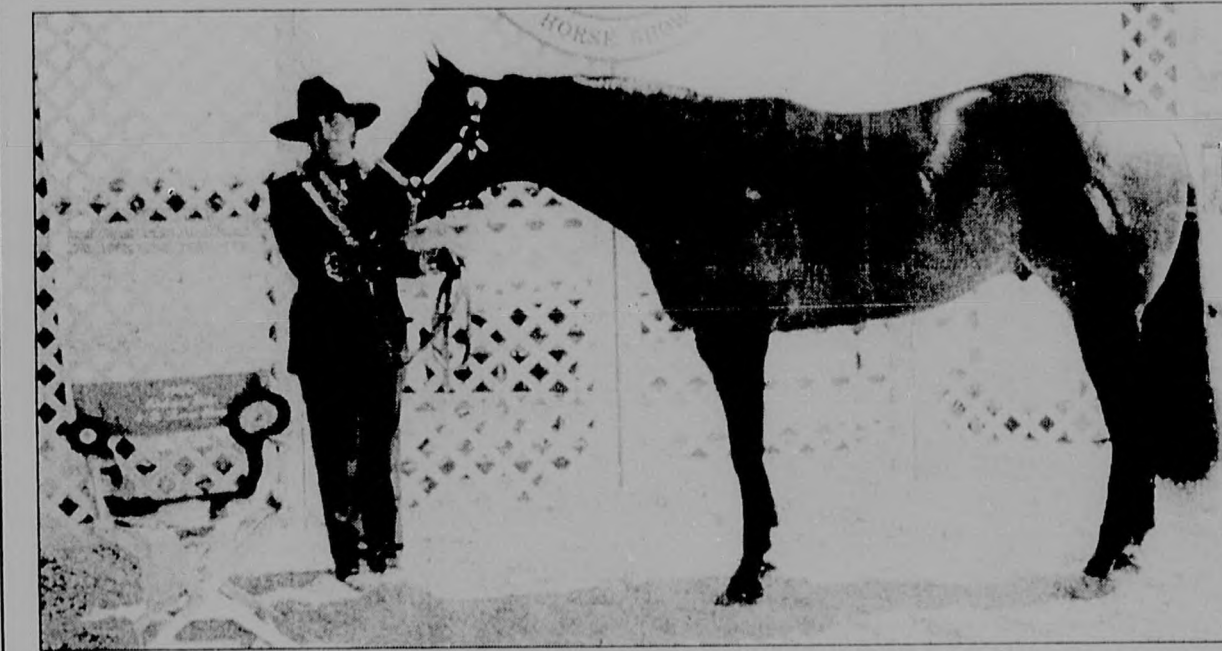
The following information must be supplied: Copies of Social Security cards and roll cards for all family members, medical statements from attending physician, etc.

For more information call Nancy Canley at 334-894-6578; e-mail - ncanley@centercomp.com. MaChis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, 708 S. John St., New Brockton, AL 36351.

Smedley appointed member of LaGrange Society for 1999-2000

Leroy Smedley, a junior majoring in computer information systems at the University of North Alabama, has been appointed as a member of the LaGrange Society for 1999-2000. Members of the Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama and the LaGrange Society are the official hosts and hostesses for the university.

Smedley is the son of Marion and Joyce Jones of Elba.



DIANA JACKSON OF ELBA won big at both the regional and state 4-H horse show. She was high point winner in one of the major divisions at the state show, and also had four top ten finishes at the regional show, which involves eight states.

acres of Delta Pine 90 Roundup Ready cotton and 75 acres of corn. From first open boll to picking is around 45 days. Stephens planted this field on April 7 and is preparing to defoliate for picking about mid-September.

Elba City Schools to destroy Special Education records

Special Education records of students who exited the Elba City Schools during the 1993-94 school year or before are no longer needed in the special education program for which they were used. Parents of these students may receive this information by contacting Harriette

Morris named executive vice president for SouthTrust Bank

Andy Morris has been named executive vice president of commercial real estate for SouthTrust Bank, announced Julian Banton, chairman, president and chief executive officer of SouthTrust Bank. Morris is responsible for commercial real estate lending that is managed out of seven SouthTrust offices.

He has been with SouthTrust since 1976 and was previously senior vice president and manager of commercial real estate. He holds a business degree from Jacksonville State University.

Caitlin White is finalist in Pre-Teen Alabama Scholarship and Recognition Program

Caitlin White, daughter of Eddie and Cathy White of Jack, has been selected as a finalist in the 1999 Pre-Teen Alabama Scholarship and Recognition Program to be held Sept. 4-6 at the Sheraton Hotel in Birmingham. Pre-Teen Alabama is a by-invitation only Scholarship and Recognition event involving young ladies 7 to 12 years of age based on their school academic records, awards and honors won and/or their participation in outside activities. Additionally, young ladies are invited who have been recognized publicly for their outstanding personal achievements, volunteer services, school involvement, leader-

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COMMUNITY NEWS



UNWELCOMED VISITOR...at the Rudolph Jones residence in the Shiloh Community (U.S. Hwy. 84E) met its fate with a shotgun blast. Clarence Jones is pictured above holding the "dead" 5-1/2 to 6-foot long rattlesnake that had crawled into a flower bed in the residence's yard. This should serve as a warning. Those big rattlers are on the move so you had better watch where you step!

Computer Maintenance Program to be offered at ESCJC targets networking

"Enterprise State Junior College's Computer Maintenance Technology Program has taken on a new emphasis in networking beginning this fall semester," announced Dr. Stafford Thompson, ESJC president. "Our Computer and Information Science Division instructors have been working to upgrade the curricula to meet business and industry needs resulting in the addition of three new courses this fall."

The A+ Certification Exam Preparation I course provides instruction in the skills and knowledge tested in the Computer Technology Industry Association A+ Service Technician Core examination. While ESJC is not a test site for this exam, plans are to become one in the near future.

The Networking Technologies course covers the basic concepts and prerequisites of network computing which provides the background information needed to prepare for network management and certification.

The Network Administration course covers how to use network administrative tools to set up, manage, and use basic network services, including file systems, network

printing, security, and e-mail. Also, advanced topics are covered on how to oversee a complex networking environment, including director services, partitioning and replication, time synchronization strategies, and integrating other networks.

These courses are a part of the Computer Maintenance Technology program. For more information about these courses or the program, contact Dr. Shane Stoner at 334-393-ESJC, ext. 290.

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1999 Alabama National Fair to be held in October

The 1999 Alabama National Fair will "Blast Off into 2000" during the 46th annual fair Oct. 8-16. The fair will be held at the Alabama Agricultural Center and Fairgrounds in Montgomery.

The fair will offer a record total of \$139,466 in prize money, ribbons and other awards to those participating in cooking contests, sewing, food preservation, crafts, art, photography, 4-H, FFA, and FHA exhibits, flower shows, giant pumpkins, statewide cheerleading, and other competition. Livestock shows will include beef and dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, and llamas.

Entry information is available from the Alabama National Fair, P.O. Box 3304, Montgomery, AL 36109, by FAX 334-272-6835, or Phone 334-272-6831. The web site address is www.alnationalfair.org.

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4 Pc. Old Town Pine Bedroom Suite
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3 FRIGIDAIRE WASHER
 • Heavy Duty
 • Extra Capacity
 • 1 Speed
 • 8 Cycle
 • 3 Temperatures
 • 3 Position Water Level
FRIGIDAIRE DRYER
 • 3 Time Dry Cycle
 • 1 Auto Cycle
 • 4 Temperatures
 • Reversible Door

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5 PC. DINETTE
 36x48 Treated Top Trestle Table, 4 Sturdy Side Chairs With Padded Seats. **\$177⁷⁷**

4 5 PC. WOODEN BUNK BED SET
 Bunk Bed, Rails, Ladder and 2-One Piece Bunkie Sets. **\$277⁷⁷**

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SPORTS

Views from

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz

The first week of the new school year has come and gone, and while going to bed early and getting up early was somewhat of a problem, the biggest problem for Melanie in the opening week was finding socks after getting dressed. She went to bed knowing what she was going to wear, but didn't worry about socks until it was time to go, and she was still barefooted. We bought her a dozen pairs of socks last week to help solve the problem, but know that after twelve days of school we will be back where we were.

DUSTING OFF THE OLE DESK...

*** The beginning of the high school football season is only one week away, and while the fans of the various teams are doing the share of bragging to fans of other teams, the coaches are doing the share of praying to the press before, during and after the season. So, maybe if we want to know the real facts we should listen to the fans. Nah, I'll just guess for myself.

The Elba Tigers have one week left before their opener up in Brantley, and Coach Julius Head is continuing to moun the blues about a total lack of speed on his team. Coach Head started last week that the kids had great attitudes and were willing to work, but then added that the team was just "awful slow" for a bunch of teenagers. It is going to take the Tigers a little while to adjust and iron out a few spots once the season starts, but once they do look for the Tigers to sharpen their teeth on some unsuspecting opponents and surprise some folks.

The New Brockton Gamecocks lost a bunch of folks off last year's state playoff squad, but the Gamecocks still have a big group of kids that have always won, no matter the sport, and I strongly believe that the winning spirit of this group will carry the Gamecocks to more wins this year than anyone expects. The Gamecocks will be very young and inexperienced in spots. However, the team will have some very valuable leadership from a great group of seniors, and the guess here is another winning season plus another visit to the playoffs.

The Kinston Bulldogs have been hit by the injury bug a little in recent workouts, but the excitement about the upcoming season is still evident in the voices of the Bulldogs and their fans, and for once the folks down in Kinston are looking forward to football. The Bulldogs will be improved, but will still be a very young team and will need a little luck with a very tough schedule to get many wins this season. Hey, at least the people in Kinston are excited!

The Zion Chapel Rebels are down in numbers again and will once again be only a few injuries away from a disaster; however, the Rebels are working hard, and from the attitude of the players it could be a better year than many think. The Rebels have some skill folks that can make big plays on both sides of the football, and if they can stay healthy and get a few breaks, it could be a fun season for the Rebels and their fans.

The Brantley Bulldogs lost almost nobody off last year's state championship team, and the word from folks that have seen the Bulldogs at this year's press conference is that the '99 Bulldogs could be even better than last year's state championship squad. The Bulldogs are loaded for a 1A team, and if the 'Dogs' can stay focused and play each and every game like a team at a time, it could very well be another big season up in Brantley.

*** I coach youth football during the summer, and I am as glib as anyone else of practicing even when it is lightning off in the distance. I tell the girls that we will get off the field when it gets close, and then try to squeeze in every minute possible. That may change when the season rolls back around next spring; however, because on Sunday, August 8, funeral services were held for Valdosta State pitcher Ben Jackson, who was killed when struck by lightning while pitching in a pickup game at a park in Thomasville, Georgia. The game was in the fourth inning when Jackson was hit by a bolt of lightning while on the mound, and it was reported that the bolt knocked the victim on his back, knocked down the first baseman, first base umpire and singled the eyebrows of the catcher. His parents were unsuccessful. Okay, know I am convinced.

*** Baseball has been used by high schools will be more like wood by the year 2001 if the National Federation of State High School Associations' rules committee has its way. The committee has proposed a change in the specifications for non-wood bats in size, weight and moment of inertia would replicate wood. It would require non-wood bats to have a 2 inch maximum barrel diameter and a minus 3 unit weight differential. Bats now are allowed to be 2 3/4 inches in diameter and have a minus 5 weight difference.

*** The youth football season is just around the corner, and for the first time over, the Elba league may not have a pee wee team when the season kicks off. The number of boys signed up for the age 12 and under football team was far below the number needed for weeks end last week, and unless at least 15 boys sign up by the end of the week, the pee wee team could be a thing of the past. The drastic cutback in boys taking part in the program is due in part to the fact that Elba High School now fields a seventh and eighth grade team that plays along with the junior high team, while another obvious reason is simply that boys no longer really care about playing football. If there is anyone out there that knows of any boys that want to play, send them to the Rec Office, if the kids want to play there still will be a team.

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30 players on Tiger roster

Elba's Coach Head feels attitude and work ethic of Tigers will pay dividends during '99 high school football season



COACH JULIUS HEAD

Younger teams already practicing

Players needed for "12 and under" youth football team in Elba as season opener on August 28 draws near

The Elba Youth Football League is scheduled to kick off its 1999 season on Saturday, August 28, and while two of the teams are busy at work in preparation for the upcoming season, the "12 and Under" team still does not have enough players to field a team for the season.

There are over twenty players on both the midgets (ages 8 and under) and termies (ages 10 and under), stated Elba Recreation Director Ricky Mularz, "but at the end of last week, we had only three players signed up for the pee wee (ages 12 and under) division. I have talked with the officials of the Tri-County Youth Football League and they have assured me that the younger two teams will play their scheduled games as always, and if we fail to field a pee wee team we will simply play two games a night instead of three."

When the high school began a seventh and eighth grade team last year it hurt our league in the older division," said Mularz, "and this year the school team may have killed our pee wee program by offering the seventh graders a spot on the junior high team. We have had announcements made at the schools to inform the boys ages 12 and under that we have a city football program for them, and that they can play seven games against other cities. We still hope to get enough boys to field a team, and if we can get fifteen players we will delay the start of the season for that one team and let the pee wees get started on Saturday, September 11. The younger teams would still start on August 28, and would then have an open date the next week. This would still allow the older players to play six games in a seven-week span, and that would be plenty."

The age requirements for the players are based upon a boys age on August 1, 1999, which means that a boy that turned 13 on August 1 would be considered 12 by the league, and would still be able to play. "I urge all parents to talk with their youngsters and encourage them to give football a chance," added Mularz. "The city program has been strong for many years and we want to keep it alive and well now and in the future."

Anyone with any questions should contact Ricky Mularz at 897-6833.

CORY MILLER caught this big beam while fishing with a catfish worm at the Elba Country Club lake with his dad last Saturday.

High school football jamboree set for Friday at Brockton

Area high school football fans will get a chance to get a glimpse of things to come this week when New Brockton High School hosts a pre-season football jamboree. The jamboree will take place on Friday, August 20, at Gamecock Stadium, with the first game to begin at 7:00 PM. Teams participating will include New Brockton, G.W. Long, Samson and Houston Academy.

Celebrity basketball game set for Enterprise State

A "Celebrity Basketball Game," featuring Roy Jones, Jr., will be played on Saturday, August 21, at 2:00 PM, at the Enterprise State Junior College gym.

Tickets are \$5 adults, \$3 students and military and \$2 for children under age 13.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the ESJC basketball teams.

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We have got a good group of kids that really give a good effort in practice and do whatever we ask them to do. We are getting better in all areas, and plan on working hard this week on offense, defense and the kicking game."

"We know that our opening game against Brantley is only a week away," added Head, "but we are more concerned about ourselves than we are Brantley. We can't worry about what Brantley is going to do. We have to worry about the Elba Tigers and have to make certain that we are ready to play next week when we kick off the season. We will spend a lot of time next week getting ready for Brantley and watching film, but for now our number one concern is the Elba Tigers."

"With the first game only one week away I would have to say that our biggest concern is blocking, both on the run and the pass," added Head. "On defense, the secondary must learn to react and be more aggressive. The players are improving every day and we just have to keep on working, hard and make certain that when we kick off next week we are as ready as we can be."

"We have been real fortunate with injuries this far in practice," said Coach Head. "We have had the regular bumps and bruises, but no one has missed practice, and that is very important as we get nearer to the start of the season. On offense we are getting better with every practice and had a good carry over from the spring. Our biggest concern is a lack of quickness in the offensive line. Our line has good size, it just doesn't have any quickness at all. Over on defense the kids are getting better, but still must attack their opponent and put the pads on somebody. Our linebackers are looking pretty good and our down linemen are coming around, but we still have work to do on the defensive side of the ball."

"The players came back for the preseason drills in overall decent shape," said Coach Head, "and during the three days in shorts we were able to do a lot of work on conditioning, timing and both offensive and defensive sets. Once we put on the pads, we did a lot of work on blocking and tackling, and spent a great deal of time teaching fundamentals. I like the attitude and the work ethic of this team, and we will simply play two games a night instead of three."

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AREA NEWS

Downtown Merchants Committee encourages input from citizens

During a recent meeting of the Downtown Merchants Committee, business owners discussed issues concerning what they need to do to make the downtown area a more attractive place to shop.

Jimmy Harrison, co-chairman of the committee, said the intention of the downtown merchants is to create an interest among the citizens of Elba to downtown instead of wandering to larger cities in the area.

One thing that Harrison said the committee decided they need to do is to get input from the citizens. "If the public has any suggestions as to what we need to do to create an interest in shopping here, we welcome their input," he said.

Being an affiliate of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Merchants Committee will plan another meeting in the near future following the today's Chamber board meeting to develop a strategic plan of what the will and can do to enhance trade in the area.

Until then, Harrison said, the committee encourages any input from the citizens to help create a positive business atmosphere in Elba.

ESJC fully approved as a MOUS certification test site

Enterprise State Junior College has been fully approved as a Microsoft Office User Specialist (MOUS) and Microsoft Novell Professional Certification Test Site, announced Dr. Stafford Thompson, ESJC president. "This fall semester, we are also prepared to teach students to prepare interested people for these tests."

Certification is becoming a computer industry standard in an attempt to assure the quality of performance by computer operators/technicians. By offering courses and becoming a test site for MOUS and the Microsoft Novell Professional Certification, ESJC can help students prepare for these tests.

Employers encouraged to continue submitting tax credit applications

Employers can save thousands of dollars by taking advantage of federal tax credits in hiring employees from targeted groups. So far, Alabama employers have saved over \$16 million in tax credits since the programs began.

Although the tax credit program expired June 30, 1999, there is pending Congressional legislation extending both the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and the Disabled Access Credit (DAC).

Employers are advised to continue submitting WOTC and DAC applications to meet filing provisions. Congressional extension is expected to be signed into law, with an effective date retroactive to July 1, 1999," says Alice McKinney, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. "The tax credits have been beneficial to thousands of employers, and we believe their reenactment is just a matter of time."

The maximum credit for WOTC is \$2,400 per qualified employee, while the maximum credit for the DAC is \$8,500 per qualified employee.

For more information on both tax credits, or to mail credit applications, write to WOTC Unit, Industrial Relations Building, 649 Monroe Street, Montgomery, AL 36131. Employers may also call Martha Sanders at (334) 353-8030 for information.

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4-H Team Denver Bound! The Coffee County 4-H Meats Judging Team placed 2nd at the state contest held in Huntsville. As a result of this placing, the team will represent Alabama at the National Western Stock Show held in Denver, Colo. in January of 2000. From left are Stan Windham, County Agent; Shawn Howell, Enterprise; Sarah Maddox, Zion Chapel; Josh Motley, Enterprise.

THIS FIELD OF COTTON started opening bolls on July 26. The cotton is produced by James Stephens Jr. on River Flats in Elba. Last year he picked over two bales (1,100 pounds) of cotton per acre. This year he has 160 acres of peanuts, 300 acres of Delta Pine 99 Roundup Ready cotton and 75 acres of corn. From first open boll to picking is around 45 days. Stephens planted this field on April 7 and is preparing to defoliate for picking around mid-September.

FORESTRY
AFI-2 Site Preparation and Forest Tree Plantation

SOIL EROSION
ASE-4 Terrace Systems
ASE-15 Conservation Tillage
ASE-17 Sediment Retention, Erosion or Water Control Structures
ASE-19 Sod Waterways

WATER QUALITY
AWQ-5 Small Animal Incinerator

AWQ-6 Manure Dry Stack Facility

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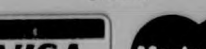
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The following employment procedures will be adhered to:

1. Apply at Kelley Foods of Alabama, Inc. Building A, Coffee County Road 404, Elba, Alabama 36623

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ANNUAL BIRTHDAY Auction. Sunday, August 22nd. 2 p.m. Northport, Alabama. 1-888-333-1398. Auctioneers: 16 pc. Oriental, 16 pc. Art, 16 pc. Pottery, 16 pc. Mahogany bar, Empire secretary. Over 100 lots. Call for brochure. JF Key AL #82.

AUCTION - ALABAMA Department of Conservation, State Lands Division, August 28, 1999, 10 a.m. State Capital Auditorium, Montgomery, Alabama. Offering 5 year hunting leases consisting of 37 tracts in 18 counties. For a detailed listing of leases call State Land Division at (334) 242-3484. Auction conducted by J.M. Wood Auction, Inc. Ron Baldwin, AL Lic. #800.

AUCTION: ROANOKE, AL. US 431 South Bypass, August 21, 1999, 10 a.m. Randolph County Mobile Homes. Selling approximately 20 used mobile homes of various sizes. A portion of these homes will sell at absolute auction. Financing available to pre-approved buyers. 5% buyer's premium. For brochure, call Larry Cooper Auction Service, AL 800 (256) 363-2423.

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COMUNITY & FARM NEWS

Service members to hear Acie Taylor August 19th

Geneva resident Acie Taylor, a veteran of WW II, will speak to area members of the Sons of the American Revolution at a meeting Aug. 19 at the Devo Restaurant on Hwy. 27 South.

Taylor, who landed on Utah Beach on D-Day and ended his war service in Germany, was wounded at St. Lo in France and sent to England to recuperate. He returned to his combat unit, and with Gen. George Patton's Third Army fought across France and into Germany.

Members of the Sons of the Revolution are "dedicated to the preservation of U.S. history and heritage . . . and are descended from those colonial patriots who fought for or assisted in freeing the American colonies from control of the British Crown."

For more information contact Jack M. Bryan, Geneva, 684-9327; or John R. Wallace, Enterprise, 347-0661.



4-H NATIONAL CONGRESS. Sarah Maddox, a student at Zion Chapel High School, was among the 23 Alabama 4-H'ers selected to represent the state at National 4-H Congress next November in Atlanta. The 4-H'ers were selected for their exceptional achievement and participation in 4-H programs in Coffee County and the state of Alabama.

Purebred beef cattle breeders excel in County

Stan Windham

County Extension Agent

As the beef cattle industry continues to grow across the Southeast and more particularly in the Wiregrass area, purebred beef cattle producers become more and more important. Cattle producers in many counties must travel great distances to find purebred bulls and females to use in their cattle herd.

All of these producers will stand behind their products. They have data, and EPD's on their cattle and in my opinion offer a good product for a fair market price. It's very important, when you are trying to find purebred stock, that you locate breeders that you can trust and that deliver a product that can improve your herd. I think all of these producers offer something that will help most any consumer do this.

When selecting bulls, make sure that you look at the hull and look for muscle and structural correctness and a good over all body size. These producers would also be more than happy to share data with you on these bulls, EPD's, actual production data and other types of information.

If you would like to contact any of these breeders, please feel free to give me a call at 944-5596. I will be more than happy to help you get in touch with them.

As we approach the summer time of the year, many of the younger bulls will be weaned. We are also moving into a time of the year when people start to think about replacing herd bulls and upgrading their overall genetics. Contact these folks now and take a look at what they have and you can start to plan for your breeding season before the breeding season gets here.

Charolais producers of Coffee County are: Larry Parker of Kinston; Rex Barley located out of Enterprise; Jason Farris and Greg Oglesby of the Damascus Community.

Gelbvieh producers of Coffee County are: Larry Davis and Cheryl Bailey located in southwest Coffee County and Tom Cauley,

located west of Elba.

Limousin producers in Coffee County are: Harold Jones, Broken I Limousin, located southwest of Enterprise in the New Home community.

Brangus producers located in Coffee County are: Dick Cullen, located north of New Brockton and Dennis and Dean Smith, located north of Elba.

All of these producers will stand behind their products. They have data, and EPD's on their cattle and in my opinion offer a good product for a fair market price. It's very important, when you are trying to find purebred stock, that you locate breeders that you can trust and that deliver a product that can improve your herd. I think all of these producers offer something that will help most any consumer do this.

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Maintaining cotton quality meeting to be held August 26th

Richard L. Petcher
County Extension Agent

Azalea Caterpillars

The azalea caterpillars are presently feeding on many azalea bushes in the area. The remedy is simple. Almost any insecticide will kill them. So just get out and spray.

###

Squirrels in Pecans

Squirrels are notorious for eating pecans before the pecans ever mature. A homeowner may have a few shade tree pecan trees that are loaded with pecans and a family of squirrels moves in, takes over and leaves you with no pecans for your

family.

Trapping squirrels is possible with a wooden box trap or Have-A-Hunt Trap. Bait the trap with peanut butter, corn, fruit or nuts. Catch the squirrels and relocate them. If you are in the country, you can shoot the squirrels during season. You may sometimes receive a special permit from the Alabama Department of Fish and Game to protect your orchard before the season.

If your trees are far enough away from other trees where the squirrels cannot jump from one tree to the next, you can place a protective collar of sheet metal on your trees. Take a 4-ft. roll of sheet metal and nail it to your pecan tree. Place it at least 4 feet from ground level. A good cat or yard dog may also be helpful.

###

Stinkbugs in Cotton

1999 may go down as the lightest worm year on record in cotton. Growers and scouts still need to be on the alert, especially on late-planted cotton. The Boll and Tobacco Budworms and primarily Fall Armyworms are present and still need to be scouted for.

Stinkbugs right now are the most important. August may be the Month of the Stinkbugs. They have the potential to do a lot of damage. The three shield is still one stinkbug per 6 feet of row or 20% damage on quarter size or soft bolls.

The control insecticides are Bidrin, Methyl Parathion, Penncap-M, Declare and Guthion.

###

Maintaining Cotton Quality Meeting

A meeting on maintaining cotton quality will be held Thursday, August 26, 1999, at the Wiregrass Experiment Station in Headland. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a sponsored dinner.

The speakers will be Mike Patterson - Cotton Defoliation, Dennis Delany - UNR Cotton, Nathan Wynn (USDA Cotton Classing Officer) - Grading Cotton, and Bob Goodman - Marketing Cotton. Call 334-693-3800 to R.S.V.P. for the sponsored meal by August 25.

###

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 11

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 26, 1999

1 Section, 14 Pages

COMMISSION ELECTS TO JOIN EEDC

Coffee County adopts strategic plan

by Marvin McLwain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting was unusually crowded Monday when representatives from the Strategic Planning Committee and the Enterprise Economic Development Corporation present.

A strategic plan for Coffee County was presented to the commissioners for their consideration by Joe Paul Stewart, chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee.

In presenting "21 and Beyond" he commended the commissioners for their foresight in commissioning the development of the plan.

"You have exercised true wisdom and judgment, and I believe history will honor you for it," said Stewart. He praised the many individuals who gave freely of their time in helping to bring together the many aspects of a workable strategic plan for Coffee County.

Stewart noted the different issues addressed in the plan as being agribusiness/agriculture, communication technology, economic development, education, quality of life, and transportation. The detailed plan outlines things that can be done to bring about improvement in each of the issues addressed.

The focus of the strategic plan is to get all the citizens of Coffee County working together for the good of the whole county and not just one certain area or aspect of development.

Stewart, as chairman, agreed that the plan was not perfect and that changes are inevitable since Coffee County is not an island. He noted events and circumstances that occur in the state and neighboring counties will certainly affect this plan, and it is the recommendation of the committee that the plan be reviewed and evaluated periodically—perhaps on an annual basis.

"A plan will remain just that unless it is acted on," said Stewart. "If you [the commission] embrace the plan, the next step will be to designate those who will work with you on implementation of the plan. You will find many capable leaders throughout the county who will be happy to work with you if you will only seek them out."

In the adoption of the plan by the commission, Commissioner Ernest Brooks commented, "Most plans spend \$20,000 to \$30,000 to develop a strategic plan such as the one presented. This one was prepared by a group of volunteers at no cost to the taxpayers of Coffee County."

Appearing before the commission on behalf of the Enterprise Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) were Brett Morgan and Tim Alford. They presented a plan to the commission for their consideration in finalizing their [the commission] becoming a part of the EEDC.

Morgan pointed out that the articles of incorporation and by-laws of

the corporation will be changed to allow Coffee County, as well as Geneva County, to become part of the organization. Coffee County will be allowed one representative from the Strategic Planning Committee (a commissioner) on the EEDC board of directors to coordinate activities between the EEDC and the county. In addition to the one board member from the commission, two board members will be appointed by the EEDC from outside Enterprise with business ties to serve on the board of directors.

Alford explained to commissioners that an advisory committee made up of individuals (legislative representatives, mayors, council members, commissioners, and other interested citizens) from throughout the county will be formed to provide a vehicle for aiding the EEDC in formulating good economic development plans and the implementation of them. This group will meet quarterly to exchange information and ideas.

The motion to proceed with the partnership was made by Commissioner Tom Grimsley and seconded by Commissioner Brooks. County Administrator Wilson Mobley noted the funds, \$50,000.00 paid in four quarterly payments of \$12,500, will be paid out of the county's Public Buildings/Road & Bridge Fund.

Commissioner Robert Stephens expressed concern saying, "I cannot vote to take money away from some fellow that lives on a dirt road on a hill where the school bus can't go and go into a new program?"

A motion to table the matter for further study by the Commission Chairman Lewis failed to pass with Commissioners Lewis, Linda Westbrook and Stephens voting for and Commissioners Grimsley, Brooks, Len Averett and Doug Dalrymple voting against.

An attempt to amend Grimsley's motion to include "giving" \$20,000 to the Elba Economic Development group - Elba Industrial Board - failed by a 4-3 vote on that advisory board.

Morgan pointed out that the Elba Industrial Board (EIB) was approached by the EEDC about their becoming a part of the Corporation; however, officials with EIB stated that they wish to maintain their own individual entity.

Finally, a vote was taken to join the EEDC with Commissioners Lewis and Stephens casting dissenting votes.

Charles Webb, director of the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency, addressed the commission concerning a potentially serious emergency medical services problem facing a large portion of the county.

"We have for many years in this county enjoyed the services of wonderful volunteers—rescue squads," said Webb. "They've done a great job and it has become an everyday part of life, something we

expect to be there when we need it. Times have changed."

He told commissioners that the Elba Rescue Squad had not answered a call since June 8, 1999, and the New Brockton Rescue Squad has not answered a call this month (August) and has answered only a few night calls in the last three months.

Webb explained that the condition is fast becoming a serious one with the status of the two units being in question. Using a map of the county, he pointed out the immediate areas affected by this problem.

Director Webb told commissioners that in the early planning stages of the development of a county-wide E-911 system, these two squads, along with Enterprise and Kinston rescue squads, had agreed to provide emergency medical services to certain areas of the county. With the potential disbandment of these two units—New Brockton and Elba—a large portion of the county will be without these critical services.

Currently, attempts are being made to revive the Elba Rescue Squad and to keep the New Brockton Unit in service; however, "it doesn't look good," Webb told commissioners.

Please See CCC Page 3

Timber sale & board appointments consume council meeting

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

On Monday evening the Elba City Council sold timber, made board appointments, approved sale of a house and heard a report on the sewer project status.

Frances Brunson and Mike McGinnis were reappointed to another term on the Elba Zoning Board of Adjustments.

An effort to reactivate the Elba Recreation Board led to the appointment of five Elba Citizens to a five-year term on that advisory board. They are Jenny Allen; Rob Paul; Doug Martin, Jr.; Greg Hanley and Tim Williams.

Daniel Stephens was named to the abatement board, replacing Reverend Williams, who resigned due to conflicting schedules.

The council agreed to nominate Roland Powell for a seat on the Coffee County Equalization Board. The appointment will be made by the Governor's office from a list of names nominated by various county and municipal councils.

Three recent flood buy-out houses had been offered for sale to the highest bidder. Only one of the three received any bids. There were two bidders for the 660 Smith Avenue former home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Smith. High bidder was Dena Richardson, 2164 County Road 239, with a bid of \$10,505.00.



HOUSE ON THE MOVE. ...There is more to moving a house than one might think! Movers don't just jack it up, put it on a trailer, and take off down the road to a new site. Even though Donald Hussey, his sons, and employees make it look easy—it's not. There is a lot of work that goes into getting the house ready for travel. It has to be removed from its foundation and mounted on rails and wheels in preparation for the move. Then, permits have to be gotten and utility crews have to be alerted to the move in order to assist with getting the house under the lines. Tuesday, after several days of waiting, Hussey & Sons Movers moved the home formerly owned by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hazen, and before them John B. Clark, from Neil Grantham Drive to a site on Taylor Mill Road. The move was just over a mile, but it took just under two hours to make the journey. Elba police officers assisted with traffic control while utility crews from the City of Elba, Covington Electric, Storer Cable and General Telephone handled utility line clearance. State Highway Department crews removed the traffic lights for the move. The house was purchased by Rachel Ruddock as part of FEMA's Flood Buy-out Program.
